

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR WISCONSIN BAY AREA COUNTIES

May 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

April Unemployment Rates Improve Seasonally

During April, unemployment rates dropped in nine of the Bay Area's ten counties. The decline follows seasonal patterns for the area as the month of April typically has declining unemployment rates. Menominee County, which was the only county to have an increase in its monthly unemployment rate, typically has an increase during the month, however the increase was less than the average since 1990. The remainder of the counties varied above and below the average change, but over all, the Bay Area declined slightly more than the monthly March to April change over the last 12 years.

The rate for the Wisconsin Bay Area was 6.1 percent, a decline of 0.7 of a percentage point. The average decline for the month has been 0.6 of a percentage point. Last year the rate for the area was 6.2 percent. Only one county had a rate above 10 percent and that was Menominee County at 12.2 percent, while two counties had rates at 5.0 percent or below. Those were the two metropolitan statistical areas in the Bay Area, Brown County and Sheboygan County. The rate for the Bay Area remained above the State of Wisconsin's unadjusted rate of 5.8 percent.

The improvement in the monthly rate is due light growth in the size of the labor force, and an increase of 2,500 workers finding employment over the month. The only counties to ex-

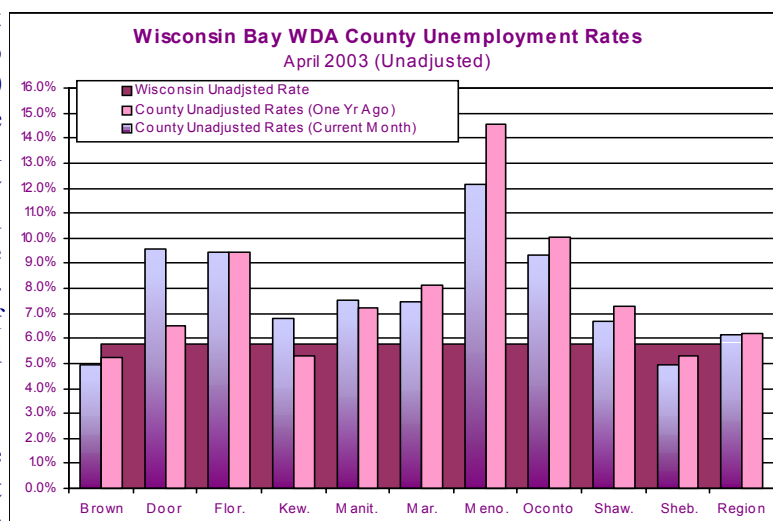
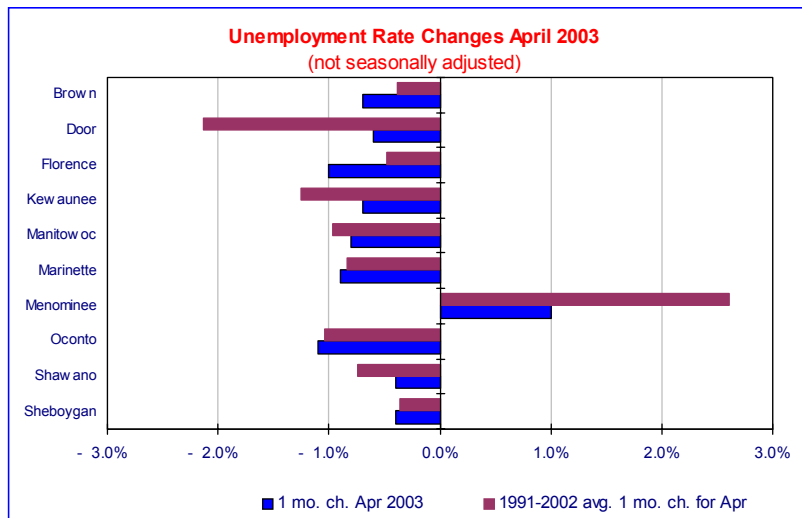
perience to workers leaving the labor force were Brown and Sheboygan with decreases of 700 and 400 respectively. Overall there were 347,600 workers in the Bay Area labor force during April with an estimated 326,400 employed. This was an increase of 10,000 in the area's labor force over the last year, while the number of employed was up 9,700 from one year ago.

While the economy has stabilized to a degree with the

expectations that seasonal employment will be close to normal this year. There will continue to be several layoffs, which are either in process or scheduled for later this year. Most notably the Mirro Company in Manitowoc which will be closing and eliminating an estimated 882 jobs by the end of this year.

Summer work opportunities should be normal this year

for occupations related to the tourism industry, but fewer jobs in areas outside of that sector such as factory jobs. Some added competition for the summer jobs may occur due to a larger number than usual workers that are unemployed and may opt for these jobs to supplement their income.



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Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

March, the rate for Sheboygan was 5.3 percent.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Green Bay MSA remained unchanged at 4.8 percent. This was the 0.2 of a percentage point below last April.

The nation's rate was 6.0 percent, up 0.2 of a percentage point from March, the same as last year. The rate for Wisconsin was down 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.4 percent.

The rate for the Sheboygan MSA was 5.0 percent. This also was up 0.2 of a percentage point from March. Last

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

Wisconsin Bay Workforce Development Area												
April 2003	Brown	Door	Flor.	Kew.	Manit.	Marinette	Meno.	Oconto	Shaw.	Sheb.	Bay Area	WI
Civilian Labor Force*	145,000	16,400	2,000	11,100	45,500	22,700	2,300	16,800	20,700	65,100	347,600	3,074,500
Employed	137,900	14,800	1,800	10,300	42,100	21,000	2,000	15,200	19,300	61,900	326,400	2,896,600
Unemployed	7,200	1,600	200	800	3,400	1,700	300	1,600	1,400	3,200	21,300	177,800
Unemployment rate(%)	5.0%	9.6%	9.4%	6.8%	7.5%	7.5%	12.2%	9.3%	6.6%	4.9%	6.1%	5.8%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	4.8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.0%	-	5.4%
Total Nonfarm	147,200	12,900	1,300	6,800	36,700	20,400	2,000	9,600	12,500	62,200	311,400	2,765,100
Total Private	129,600	11,100	1,000	5,700	32,100	18,000	100	7,400	9,500	55,500	270,000	2,337,700
Goods Producing	34,500	2,900	400	2,400	13,600	6,800	*	3,100	2,900	26,800	93,200	627,200
Service Producing	112,700	10,000	900	4,400	23,100	13,600	2,000	6,500	9,600	35,400	218,200	2,137,900
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	7,500	900	100	500	1,600	600	*	600	500	2,400	14,600	112,600
Manufacturing	27,000	2,000	300	1,900	12,100	6,200	*	2,500	2,300	24,400	78,600	514,600
Trade	21,700	1,600	100	800	4,300	2,900	100	1,000	1,900	7,300	41,500	425,000
Transportation & Utilities	9,600	100	40	500	1,600	600	*	300	300	1,200	14,300	310,000
Financial Activities	10,500	600	40	200	1,000	600	*	200	400	2,200	15,800	155,700
Education and Health Services	17,100	1,400	100	600	4,700	2,800	*	1,000	1,600	6,500	35,900	362,500
Leisure & Hospitality	13,200	3,100	200	800	3,000	1,900	*	1,100	1,400	3,800	28,500	232,700
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	23,000	1,400	100	500	3,900	2,300	*	700	1,100	7,700	40,700	948,200
Total Government	17,600	1,800	300	1,000	4,600	2,400	1,900	2,200	2,900	6,700	41,400	427,400
Federal	1,000	100	30	100	200	100	*	100	100	200	2,000	28,800
State	2,600	100	10	0	200	200	*	0	100	700	3,900	103,800
Local	14,000	1,600	300	1,000	4,200	2,100	1,900	2,000	2,700	5,800	35,500	294,800
Change from one month ago March 2003												
Civilian Labor Force*	-700	500	0	100	200	100	0	0	200	-400	200	-7,800
Employed	400	600	100	200	500	300	0	200	300	-100	2,500	14,400
Unemployed	-1,000	-100	0	-100	-300	-200	0	-200	-100	-300	-2,200	-22,200
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.7%	-0.7%	-1.0%	-0.7%	-0.8%	-1.0%	0.9%	-1.1%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.7%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	0.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2%	-	-0.1%
Total Nonfarm	1,300	500	60	200	700	500	-10	200	200	300	4,000	25,500
Total Private	1,400	500	60	200	700	500	0	100	200	300	3,900	24,000
Goods Producing	500	-200	50	100	300	100		100	0	100	1,100	8,900
Service Producing	800	700	10	100	400	400	-10	100	200	200	2,900	16,600
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	600	100	10	100	200	100		100	0	200	1,300	10,000
Manufacturing	-100	-200	30	0	100	100		-20	10	-100	-160	-1,100
Trade	500	100	0	10	100	0	0	10	30	0	680	2,600
Transportation & Utilities	100	0	0	30	100	0		10	-10	0	180	2,600
Financial Activities	-400	0	0	0	0	0		0	10	0	-350	2,300
Education and Health Services	-400	0	0	0	0	100		-20	0	100	-240	-600
Leisure & Hospitality	900	500	0	50	200	200		50	110	100	2,050	6,100
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	200	100	10	20	100	100		10	30	0	510	6,000
Total Government	-100	100	0	10	0	0	-10	40	20	0	40	1,500
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	10	0	20	-100
State	-100	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	-90	900
Local	0	0	0	10	0	0	-20	40	10	0	120	700
Change from one year ago April 2002												
Civilian Labor Force*	4,200	1,100	200	600	900	700	0	400	100	2,000	10,000	62,700
Employed	4,400	500	200	400	700	800	0	500	200	2,100	9,700	63,400
Unemployed	-200	600	0	200	200	-100	-100	-100	-100	-100	300	-700
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.3%	3.1%	0.0%	1.5%	0.3%	-0.7%	-2.4%	-0.6%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.1%	-0.1%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.3%	-	-0.1%
Total Nonfarm	2,800	200	100	100	0	500	0	100	-100	700	4,500	-33,300
Total Private	3,100	300	100	300	0	500	-100	0	0	800	5,000	-36,400
Goods Producing	-100	-200	100	-100	-300	100		-100	0	200	-300	-37,600
Service Producing	2,900	400	0	200	300	400	0	200	-100	500	4,800	4,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-400	0	0	0	-100	0		0	0	-300	-800	-13,400
Manufacturing	300	-100	0	-100	-200	100		-100	0	500	500	-24,200
Trade	-900	-300	0	0	100	0	0	0	-100	-100	-1,300	-26,200
Transportation & Utilities	400	0	0	100	-100	0		0	0	-100	300	-26,300
Financial Activities	300	100	0	0	0	0		0	100	100	600	3,900
Education and Health Services	500	100	0	0	300	0		0	100	100	1,100	7,200
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200	800	0	200	100	300		200	100	0	2,900	8,000
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	1,700	-200	0	0	0	0		-100	-200	600	1,700	22,400
Total Government	-300	-100	0	-100	0	0	100	100	-100	-100	-500	3,100
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	-1,400
State	-400	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	-400	1,400
Local	100	-100	0	-100	0	0	100	100	-100	-100	-200	3,100

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. N.W.'s data is benchmarked to 3/2002

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Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

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